

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 4-8 are rejected.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claims 2 and 3. Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled herein.

Claim 8 has been amended to independent form including the features of original claim 1.

Claims 1-2 and 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Pell et al. (U.S. 6,084,772).

Claim 3 is not rejected by the prior art and since claim 1 now includes the features of claim 3 and claims 4-7 depend from claim 1, this rejection is obviated.

Claims 1 and 5-8 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Hasegawa et al. (U.S. 2002/160742) (hereinafter Hasegawa).

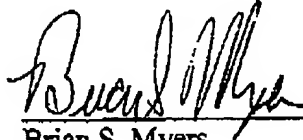
Hasegawa is an improper reference and the rejection should be withdrawn. The inventors in Hasegawa are the same inventive entity as in the present application, therefore the reference is invalid under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as it does not comply with the "by another" requirement.

Claims 1, 4-8 are in condition for allowance which action is requested.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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